US $12.95

JAZZ 4

TAMOTSU TAKAMURE

DOB: September 24th / Libra / Blood Type O

HOBBY: Gardening. The yard becomes a flower garden when spring comes.

FAVORITE FOOD: Fruits, Meat, Sashimi (sliced raw fish), too many to mention.

FAVORITE COLOR: A bluish, variable color, like Opal.

What I currently love most: My pets (I have more than ten.)

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JAZZ 4

PARENTAL EXPLICIT CONTENT ADVISORY

June Yaoi Manga

JAZZ 4
Tamotsu Takamure • Sakae Maeda
June

JAZZ 4

Naoki and Dr. Narusawa have finally moved onto new lives without one another...or have they? The decision to split was made to spare Naoki's young, tormented heart, but it may have been a terrible mistake. As the stinging flames of jealousy engulf the former lovers, can the sparks of their heat be channeled into the fierce fire of a re-kindled passion...or will their affair burn down every dream they ever held dear?

Jazz exudes the sweet perfume of a perfect match...or at least a tempestuous one! With the ever-present promise of an ideal future beckoning both the serious, shy Dr. Narusawa and the anxious young Naoki, each decision they make proves to be crucial. And once they're bound in the deepest of loves, can these two men hope to find their individual destinies? Only time, and a trial by fire, will tell...

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Where girls gather...
&
boys play...

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Illustrated by: *Tamotsu Takamure*
Story by: *Sakae Maeda*

JAZZY

PARENTAL EXPLICIT CONTENT ADVISORY

June Yaoi Manga

JAZZY

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WAS IT DAD?

...

DOC...

HUH?

IF I GO INTO A FIT, I'LL BE FINE & MY DOCTOR'S THERE, HUH?

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU WENT ALONG WITH.

YOU'RE ALWAYS SAYING, "LET'S SPLIT UP AND "LOOK AFTER YOURSELF."

HMM

I'M STILL HIS ONLY SON.

HE MUST BE WORRIED

DID MY DAD ASK YOU?

NAOKI...!

SEGAWA-KUN?

THAT'S NOT IT!

-1-

THE MONEY?

COULD IT BE...

BLOSH

I'VE SEEN HER AS PURE.

SHE CAME TO VISIT HIM AT THE HOSPITAL

IT'S NOTHING.

THAT GIRL

WHAT'S WRONG?

SEGAWA-KUN?

I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK

...NAOKI...

DO WHAT YOU WANT

IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME

IF YOU WANT TO LIVE HERE GO AHEAD.

PSHH!

©

LOVE, NAOKI.

I'M STILL WORRIED ABOUT HIS ASTHMA

COULD YOU LET ME STAY WITH NAOKI-KUN FOR A BIT LONGER...?

I'M STILL...

I...

I...

WORTHLESS THAN ANY-THING...

PHEW!

LOOKS LIKE...

EVERY-THING'S IN ORDER.

THIS ROOM...

...THE TWO OF THEM ARE LIVING TOGETHER.

JUST LIKE WHERE.

...IS PROBABLY ARRANGED JUST LIKE NAOKI'S

I OWN THE APARTMENT BUILDING NAOKI LIVES IN

THERE'S AN OPEN ROOM ON THE SAME FLOOR AS WE USE FOR BUSINESS

IT'S A FAVOR TO ME AS WELL, AFTER ALL

I UNDER-STAND.

I'LL LEND IT TO YOU.

DOCTOR

SO, PLEASE

PLEASE WATCH OVER HIM SO HE DOESN'T OVERWORK HIMSELF.

HEY!

SEGAWA-KUN?

HELP ME UNDERSTAND THIS

...

...

...SOMEONE ELSE NOW...!

...HA?

OH.

OI, NAZU-SAWA.

YOU HAVE A VISITOR.

C'MON

WHY?

WHAT IS THIS?

ER. TAKINO.

SOMEONE YOU KNOW?

KOICHI

CH...

SCRRY (MICHAEL)

A FOREIGNER?

Miss.

BUT WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE...?

WE'RE COLLEAGUES FROM MY WORK OVERSEAS

KUH!

DIDN'T I TELL YOU?

I'LL BE STAYING IN JAPAN FOR A WHILE BECAUSE OF A CONFERENCE

MICHAEL?!

KOICHI!

KOICHI!

FLINCH

REACH

NOW, I CAN RETURN THE FAVOR

YOU LOOKED AFTER ME IN AMERICA. RIGHT?

YOU TOOK ME SHOPPING

GAVE ME ADVICE

U—M GLEAN

YOU'RE SUCH A GOOD MAN!

KOICHI...

OH.

SURE

WHERE'S THAT?

A SHRINE PLACE, MAYBE?

HUH?

WELL. THEN.

THERE IS ONE PLACE I WANT TO GO FIRST

BUT DR MARUSAWA JUST MOVED, DIDN'T HE?

MOVED?

KYOTO GRAND TEMPLE!

I LOVE JAPAN

I WAS HOPING YOU COULD BE MY GUIDE. ♡

OH.

NO.

IT'S ALL R.GHT.

I SEE.

IT'S TOO MUCH TO ASK. THEN

HOT POT IN THE SUMMER...?

BESIDES, I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO TRY...

A JAPANESE HOT POT PARTY!

WITH A HEATED TABLE AND JAPANESE SAKE ♡

HA HA... OF... COURSE

DOC-TOR?

HEH

IS THIS REALLY ALL RIGHT?

IT'S OKAY TO DO THIS ONCE IN A WHILE

AND BESIDES...

IT'S FUN.

IT'S TOO HOT FOR WHAT YOU'RE PLANNING

...BUT IT'S SUMMER NOW

SO, LET'S TURN ON THE AIR!

IT'S ALL RIGHT

HOT POT'S BETTER THE MORE PEOPLE YOU HAVE

DOCTOR

SORRY FOR THE INTRUSION.

YOUR PLACE.

THAT'S A PARTY!

IT'S A PARTY AFTER ALL.

HELP YOURSELF TO ANYTHING! ♡

IT'S NOT YOUR PARTY!...

I COULD ALWAYS LIVE LIKE THIS, WITHOUT WORK...

IF ONLY...

IT'S FUN BEING WITH EVERYONE LIKE THIS.

WHEN I'M ALONE...

...OFF-LESS-PLEASANT THINGS

IT KEEPS YOU AWAKE.

...MY MIND IS FILLED ONLY WITH NAOKI.

SORRY ABOUT...

...SAGING IN LIKE WE DID

BUT WILL YOU...

BE ALL RIGHT?

NOT AT ALL. BE CARE-FULL

WITH THAT.

SIM

HUH?

AND YET

...WHY DOES NAOKI STILL CLOUD MY HEART...?

YOU MOVED INTO QUITE A PLACE.

YOU KNOW DOCTOR.

UM...

YES...

IT'S EXPENSIVE?

ISN'T IT?

I THINK SO...

STONE-COLD DRUNK.

...

Y...YES

SNORE

SIGH

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

MY PLACE...

IS OVER THERE

JEEP

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

SQUAWK

I'M SORROWING AT FROM AN ACQUAINTANCE

WHAT'S WITH HIM?

WHAT AN ATTITUDE!

I'M SURE...

IT'S NOTHING

OR TAKING

THE DOCTORS ARE GATHERED FOR A DRINK?

HOW NICE FOR YOU

MEN

...DID HE SAY "MICHAEL"...?

ANYWAY, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, MICHAEL. I'LL TAKE HIM HOME.

WELL

THAT WAS AWKWARD.

JUST WHEN NAOKI FINALLY CAME HOME...

HOW DID I LET THAT HAPPINESS SLIP AWAY FROM ME?

I WAS SO AFRAID OF LOSING.. THAT I LOST WHAT WAS MOST PRECIOUS TO ME...

UHHH...

THAT'S RIGHT. HE DOESN'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO SAY ANYTHING TO ME.

IF HE REALLY IS GOING OUT WITH HER,

GRIT GRIT

NAOKI.

S ALONE TODAY

WASN'T HE LIVING WITH THAT GIRL...?

HEY

I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED

MICHAEL! DIDN'T USED TO DRINK LIKE THIS

HE DRANK WAY TOO MUCH TONIGHT.

MICHAEL...

YOU SHOULD GO BACK TO THE HOTEL

FORGOT ABOUT HIM

ARE YOU AWAKE?

MICHAEL?

YOU'VE GOT A CONFERNCE DON'T YOU?

NNN

AH...

YEAH

OK

OK.

HMMM...

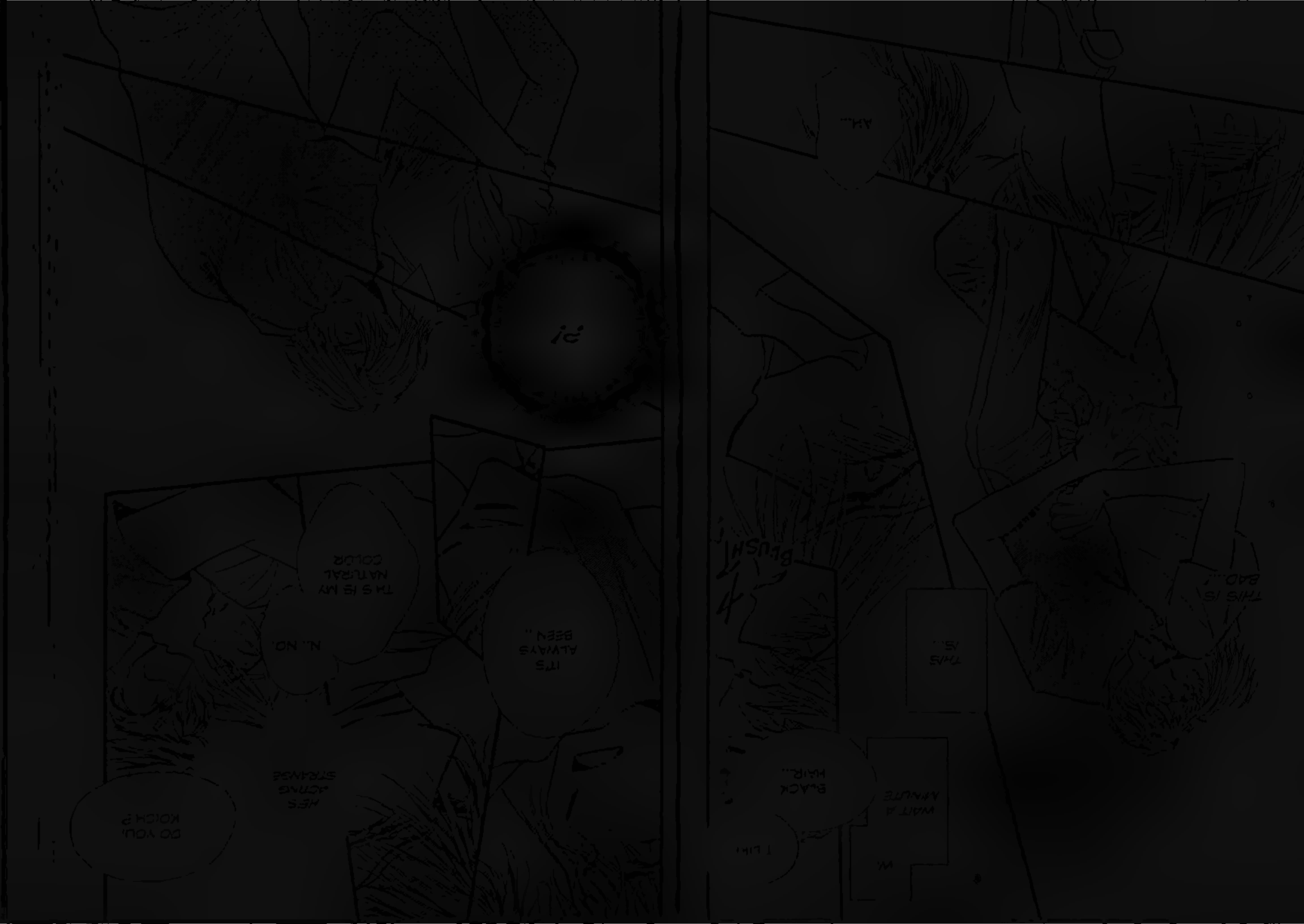
JAPANESE BISCPLE ALL HAVE BLACK HA'R, RIGHT?

HUH?

EVERYONE'S INTO DYING IT...

NOT SO MUCH LATELY

MICHAEL...?


ITS ALWAYS BEEN..
NO.. NO..
THIS IS MY NATURAL COLOR
DO YOU, NOTICE? HE'S ACTING STRANGE
BLACK HAIR..
WAIT A MINUTE
THIS IS BAD..

MICHAEL...

NAOKI....!

...
...

NAOKI...!

MICHAEL!

THIS IS...

UUHH...

MUTTER MUTTER

HE'S ALIVE?

YOU'RE IN THE WAY...!

MIDDLE OF THE HALL?!

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING IN THE

KOICHI...?

DOES ME.

COMPLETELY HATE ME...?

ASHURA

AH

SORRR..

AH...

HUH?

SORRY, SORRY

WAS I ASLEEP?

I'M SO USELESS WHEN I'M DRUNK.

THOSE COLD EYES..

KOICHI...

SHIT...!

...
...

WHIS

...
...

I REALLY WAS THAT MICHAEL.

I WAS WRONG ABOUT THEM BACK IN AMERICA THAT ONE TIME.

COULD HE HAVE CHASED HIM HERE FROM AMERICA...?

MON

WHY DOES IT SMOKE AND SO MUCH?

ISN'T HE A STRANGER TO A NOVA?

WHO CARES

WHO CARES OUT WHAT

THIS ISN'T GOOD.
IT'S OKAY! I'LL CLEAN IT UP.
THANKS
OH.
YES
DOC-TOR!
IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME!
NOW.
I'LL BE ONE SOON
ME TANAKA
ALL BY MYSELF
JUST RELAX
I HATE COVID-PANTS
DOES IT HURT?
I'M AT WORK...!
I CAN'T LOSE FOCUS
PRAISE THE END-SCOPE
OKAY!

...HURRY!

RIGHT, MR. TANAKA?!

ARE YOU ALL PREPARE SUCTION...!

IT WAS A VERY ELEMENTARY MISTAKE

...HEH...

...WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU.

NI-EUSAWA-YUKI?

I'M VERY SORRY.

...HEH...

ISN'T IT STANDARD TO CONFIRM THE PATIENT HASN'T EATEN BEFORE PERFORMING AN ENDOSCOPY.

THERE ARE PATIENTS THAT DISREGARD OUR WARNINGS AFTER ALL.

IT WASN'T THAT SERIOUS THING, BUT IN THE FUTURE BE MORE CAREFUL.

I HAVE HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR YOU

"EXPECTATIONS"...

I HATE THAT WORD...

PLEASE TRY HARDER

YOU'VE CHANGED THIS PAST MONTH OR SO.

YOU'VE BEEN...

LOSING FOCUS.

...

BECOME A GREAT DOCTOR.

WHEN I'M 51

WE EXPECT A LOT FROM YOU KNOW

...START TO HATE THAT WORD?

ALL I COULD DO WAS STRIVE TOWARDS THEIR EXTREME EXPECTATIONS OF ME.

I WORKED HARD. I WAS AFRAID OF DISAPPOINTING THEM.

I DID JUST WHAT I WAS TOLD.

I NEVER KNEW...

WHAT I WANTED TO BECOME

WHAT I DESIRED

THIS IS FINE.

NIOKI IS UPSTAIRS.

MICHAEL IS NORMAL TODAY

HE REALLY WAS JUST DRUNK THE OTHER NIGHT.

GET YOUR GIRLFRIEND TO COMFORT YOU OR SOMETHING

I CAN'T STAND HIM LOOKING AT ME WITH THOSE EYES AGAIN

WE BROKE UP.

DON'T BE DOWN.

KOICHI..

WHOOPS

Y.

YEAH

I'M OKAY

ARE YOU OKAY KOICHI?

I DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING..

I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW..

..WHAT I SHOULD HAVE DESIRED.

FOR MAKING YOU COME OUT WITH ME.

SORRY. MICHAEL.

HE CAME TO ME.

HE WAS THE ONLY THING REAL TO ME

...ONLY HIM.

I FELT SEPARATED FROM REALITY

I WAS DIFFERENT FROM THEM.

CRYING

LAUGHING.

ARGUING

HE WAS MY FIRST...

BIT-BY-BIT

I BECAME...

MY PARENTS NEVER...

...TAUGHT ME WHAT WAS MOST IMPORTANT.

I ALWAYS FELT OUT OF PLACE.

I WONDER WHY.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME

IT WAS NO GOOD.

THE MORE I TRIED TO FIX THINGS, THE MORE I WAS HATED.

I THINK...

I JUST DON'T BELONG WITH SOMEONE ELSE.

...SO COMFORT-ABLE WITH HIM...

MY ONLY LOVER

"HE"...?

YOUR LOVER.

"HE"

DAMN!

MICHAEL LET GO...!

...THAT IT HURT

IT'S A MAN...?

YOU MEAN

NAOKI...!

HEY!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

NAOKI WAIT!

THAT HURTS!

MA...

GRAB

NAOKI...!

HUH?

I WAS JUST—

NO.

WAIT!

NAOKI!

I'M DOC'S

HUH...?!

...LOVER...!

WHERE ARE YOU TAKING KOICHI?

HEY!!

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?!

I AM...

...

KOICHI'S...?

THAT IS

...KOICHI LOOKED THAT WAY!

LOVER...?

SO, IT'S HIS FAULT.

WHAT...?

I'M SORRY, MICHAEL. IT'S ALL RIGHT

I'LL CALL YOU TOMORROW!

WHAT WERE...

...YOU THINK-ING...?

WHAT...?

SLAM!

I'M SORRY...

WHY ARE YOU MAD AT ME...?!

YOU LOOK SO FRIGHTENING...

HOW CAN YOU ACCUSE ME LIKE THIS?

AND CALLING ME YOUR "LOVER".

WAH...

FORGET ME.

WHAT ABOUT YOU...?

RRRING
SWITCH
"OH."
IT'S MICHAEL...
MY PHONE...
DON'T ANSWER IT...!
CLICK
WHY?

...FOL-
LOW
YOU!!

FROM
ALAERI-
CA...?

...A
FRIEND?

HE'S HERE
FOR A
CONFER-
ENCE...

OF
COURSE
NOT!

MICHAEL'S
MY FRIEND.

OLD
HE...

HE...

HUH?

WHY DOES
HE TAKE
EVERYTHING
THE WRONG
WAY...?!

MICHAEL
AND I
WERE JUST
WALKING
TOGETHER.

FOLLOW
YOU HERE?

OLD
HE...

...
...!

...KISS
ALL YOUR
FRIENDS...?

BY
YOU.

THAT'S...

I
ALWAYS
TOLD
YOU.

YOU
WERE AN
EASY
TARGET

NONE
OF...

YOUR
BLOA...

THAT
IS...

MADKINS LIPS.

IT'S BEEN SO LONG

MIN-I

MIN

NA...

WHAT...?

...NESS!

POSH!

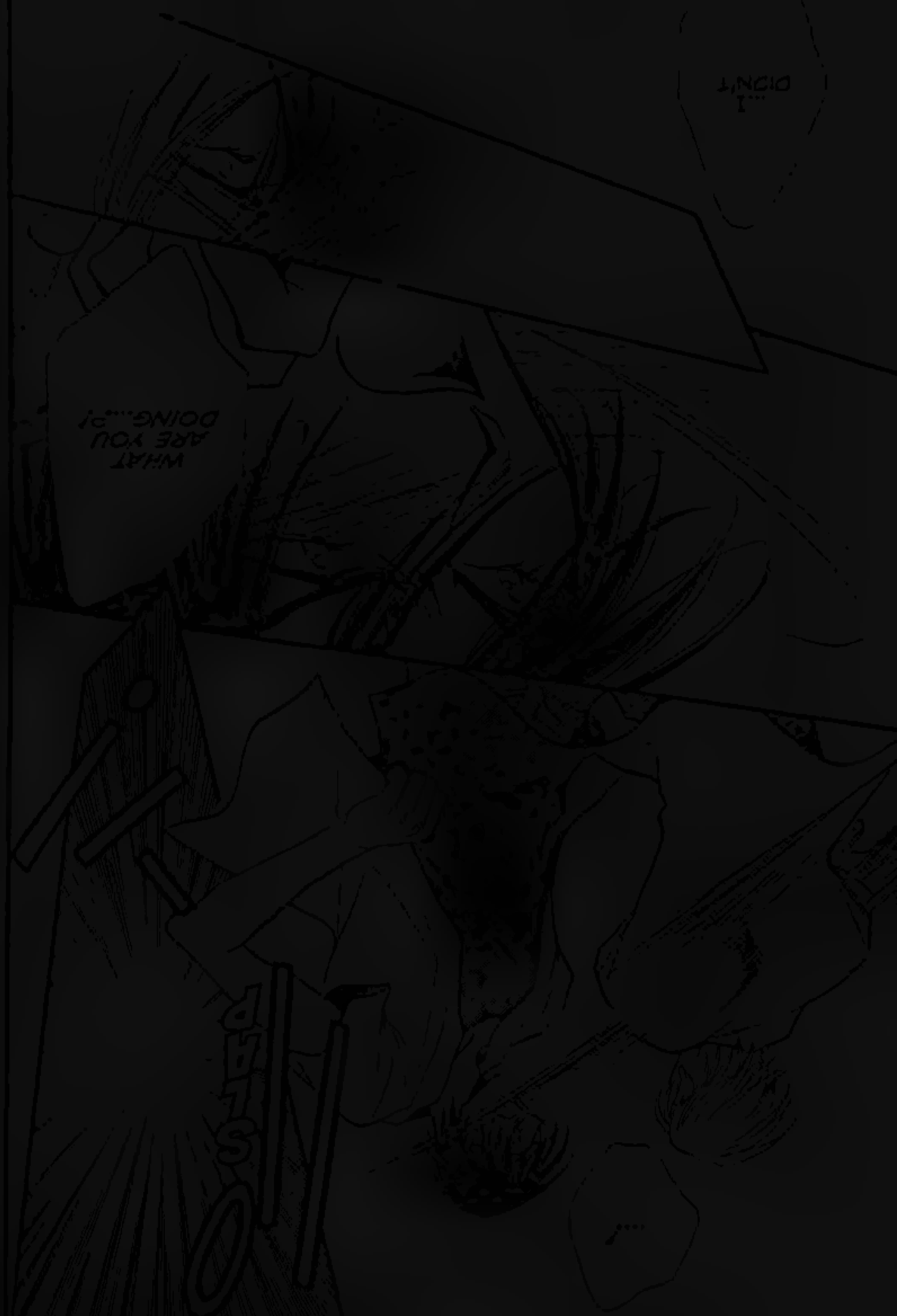
HEY!

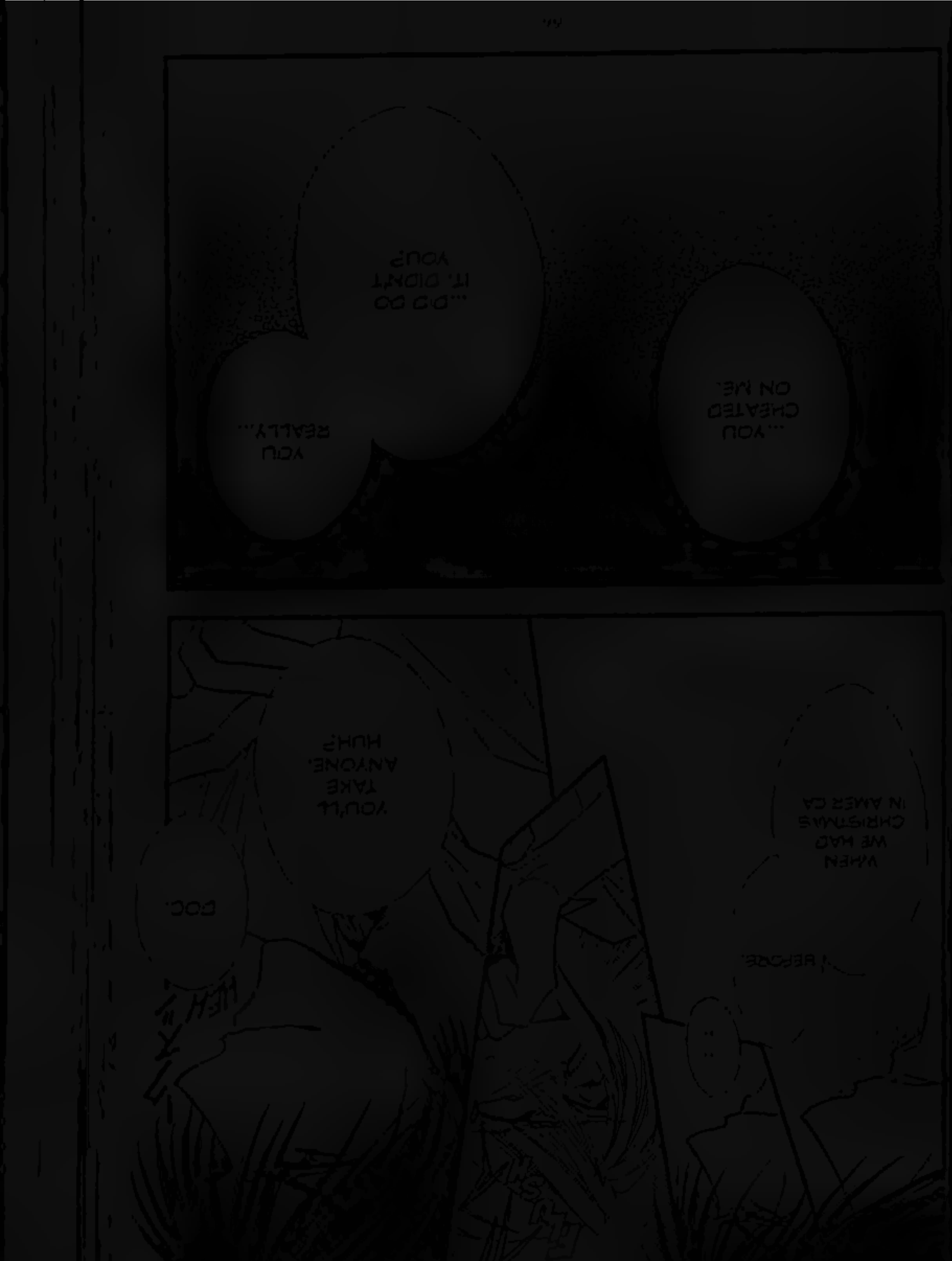
...STAINED FOR THESE LIPS!

NOW LONG I'VE...

REALLY? NOW

...DO SO IT. DIDN'T YOU?
YOU REALLY...
...YOU CHEATED ON ME.


I... DIDN'T
WHAT ARE YOU DOING...?!
...!
SO


YOU'LL TAKE ANYONE, HUH?
EGG
WHEN WE HAD CHRISTMAS IN AMERICA
...BEFORE!

ANYTHING...

I'LL DO

...ANYTHING

TO BE

ASHAMED

OF!

I...

I

NEVER

DID...

DOC!

DOC!...

...

...

NO, MICHAEL...

AND SHE SAID,

I ASKED HER TO MOVE IN WITH ME.

THAT'S WHY

I LIKE BLACK HAIR

...OH

THE TRUTH IS, BEFORE I CAME TO JAPAN, CATHY DUMPED ME

KOICHI.

"HEY."

WELL, WHEN HE'S NOT ANGRY.

YES

REALLY?

...BUT HE'S A PERFECT GENTLE-MAN

NOW HE DOESN'T LOOK IT...

FRUIT

MI-CHAEL...

...YEAH.

ARE YOU OKAY AFTER LAST NIGHT?

HE DIDN'T

HE DIDN'T GET VIOLENT, DID HE?!

KOICHI!!!

HEY!

MAYBE I JUST DIDN'T REALIZE SHE WAS TRYING TO TURN ME DOWN GENTLY

ALL ALONG.

MAYBE SHE LIKES SOMEONE ELSE?

THAT'S NOT IT!

I DON'T GET WOMEN.

I LOVE YOU

IT'S BECAUSE I LOVE YOU THAT—

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? I DON'T UNDERSTAND!

I DON'T GET IT

CATHY

BECAUSE I'M...

...THE SAME WAY

I UNDERSTAND HOW CATHY FEELS...

I AM

ER

.....

I'M SURPRISED...!

I'M SCARED TO LOSE THE THINGS I GAIN.

I'M AFRAID OF BEING HAPPY

WHY? YOU DON'T LIKE ME?

THAT'S NOT IT.

I LOVE YOU

BUT YOU SEE...

I DON'T WANT TO BE HAPPY

THAT'S WHY I'M FINE WITH HOW THINGS ARE NOW.

"...LOVE HIM. RIGHT...?

YOU STILL...

...!

DON'T HE?

HE GOT THE WRONG IDEA.

YOU SHOULD BE GIVING ME ADVICE.

THE ATTRACTION UNDERSTANDS A WOMAN'S FEELINGS?

BUT STILL... I'VE CAUSED YOU SOME TROUBLE.

SOMETHING CAN BE LOOKS LIKE I'VE GOT SOME WORK TO DO TOO.

WE'RE MORE ACCEPTING OF GAYS THAN CHRISTIANS.

I'M A BUDDHIST.

DON'T WORRY.

...YOU DON'T REALIZE IT UNTIL YOU LOSE IT

AND YET

...SO ASEXUAL

SHOULD I JUST...

GIVE UP ALREADY...?

NAOKI!

HEY.

I'M MAKING YOUR FAVORITES TONIGHT

DO YOU WANT YOUR STEAK PREPARED THE JAPANESE OR WESTERN WAY?

...EITHER IS FINE

SO, I'M GOING TO SPOIL YOU NOW

YOU DIDN'T EVEN COME BACK FOR NEW YEAR'S!

BUT THEN HE SAID IT WASN'T UP TO ME AT BUSINESS

I JUST WANTED TO TRY TEASING HIM A BIT

THERE'S A SOLID TASTE IN AN AUDITH.

I DON'T THINK I'D SEE HIM CRY

SUCH SETTING SO WELL WITH OTHER GUYS

SIGH 34

IT'S OKAY I'M NOT GOING TO HAVE ANY MORE FITS.

YOU ASKED HIM TO LOOK AFTER ME, RIGHT?

HMP

I'M...

...DR. NARUSAWA

FORGIVE ABOUT

I'M...

...JUST FINE.

IF I HAVE TO..

..KEEP SEEING HIM..

9 & 1/2 DE

DAD...

YOU'RE HOME, FOR ONCE.

I NEEDED MATERIALS FOR MY REPORT.

I JUST CAME TO GET THEM.

HOW RARE

HE WAS..

..RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME.

I COULDN'T STAY CALM FACED WITH HIM..

I WON'T BE ABLE TO STAND IT.

I'LL WANT HIM SO MUCH

IT WAS WHAT HE WANTED

"WHAT?"

"ASK HIM TO DO THAT.

I DIDN'T..

"UNTIL NOW I'VE ALWAYS BEEN THE ONE CHASING HIM

NOW JUST

THAT MEANS...

THAT'S WHY I SAVE HIM THE APPARTMENT

WOULD IT BE ALL RIGHT FOR ME TO STAY WITH HIM A WHILE?

OR NAPLES VII CALL TO A... IKE A MEET...

ANDREW'S INTERVIEW
YOU'RE NOT GETTING ANY YOUNGER YOURSELF.
IT'S NOT A BAD IDEA.
SHE'S THE DAUGHTER OF A FRIEND OF MINE
"THAT THIS TIME DOC /S CHASING ME. ."
COULD IT BE...
MARRIAGE INTERVIEWS
WHAT?
YES
IT'S ARE I'M NEVER GOING TO PLAN SOON AHEAD!
WHAT'S TO TH NY ABOUT?
I'M JUST ASKING YOU TO MEET HER.
IT'S JUST THAT...
NO
TO WORRY ABOUT THESE THINGS.
SEEMS TOO ECON...
...IT STILL
MAYBE YOU EVEN MET SOMEONE WHILE YOU WERE OVERSEAS..."
IT'S HARD TO FIND A GOOD MATCH
BUT THEN,
YOU SEEM SO POPULAR ANYWAY.
TH-THUMP

WE'VE
TO GET
ARRIED..

IF

A MIRACLE
INTERVIEW

I'VE
NEVER
BEEN
THOUGHT
ABOUT IT

COULD
I ESCAPE
THIS PAIN?

YAOI

Sale
Sale
NOW THAT I THINK OF IT
LET'S BUY SOME.
WE'LL DO THEM TONIGHT
THERE'S A SALE ON FIREWORKS.
OH!
I COULD JUST TURN HER DOWN. LIKE ALWAYS..
EVEN A MEETING IS A LOT OF EFFORT
EASY FOR. WHAT TO
IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE FORMAL. WHY NOT JUST MEET CASUALLY?
JUMP
BUT
THAT'S RIGHT
IT'S ALREADY AUTUMN.
STREET FASHIONS HAVE CHANGED
THE NIGHT-HAIR HAS BEEN A LITTLE COLD

...AAAKING ARE FEEL SO COLD...
CATHY.
HUH?
IT'S GOING TO BE TOUGH FACING HER AGAIN...
MY HEART'S STILL BEATIN'.. :^)
BUT GIVE MY REGARDS TO CATHY.
I WASN'T THAT MUCH HELP
<OICH!
THANKS FOR EVERYTHING
NOT AT ALL
THE CHANGES IN SEA-SONS
IT'S NOT US!..

YOUR SECOND LOVE...
HE'S FUNNY.
BUT...
SO/SO THAT'S ALL HAH!
WHY IS THAT?
REALLY?! YOU REALLY THINK SO?!
I'M SO/SO SURE
HAHA
FOR YOU?
IS SHE LOVES YOU BUT NOT ENOUGH TO MARRY YOU. DOESN'T THAT MEAN THAT'S THE LIMIT OF HER FEELINGS
OR SO IT GOES
BUT IN JAPAN WE SAY, "MARRY YOUR SECOND LOVE."
DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE STATES.
HUH?
WHAT? ARE YOU LOVED HERE, RICHIE?

MAYBE BECAUSE IT CAN BE PAINFUL WHEN YOU LOVE SOMEONE TOO MUCH.

LOVING SOMEONE TOO MUCH.

CAN BE PAINFUL.

I'VE DECIDED!!

WHO KNOWS?

BUT YOU KNOW

.....

I MIGHT HAVE GONE FOR YOU INSTEAD.

...IF YOU WERE A WOMAN. KOICHI.

AH!

HEY!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

I REALLY DO LOVE CATHY!

WHEN I GET BACK I'M GOIN' - I PROPOSE ASAP!!

GO FOR IT, KOICHI!

OKAY!!

I'M GONNA

ARE YOU GOING THROUGH WITH THE INTERVIEW?

I CERTAINLY DIDN'T HEAD IT CIRCULATING THE NURSE'S STATION

...OR HARU-SAWA?

TSK TSK

THAT'S...

NO-NO.

I'M SURE HE'D PUSH HER ON YOU TOO.

BECAUSE HE LIKES YOU!

DIRECTOR SUZUKI HAD A DAUGHTER OF HIS OWN.

IF THERE ARE NO AMOMS ACCEPTING HOSPITAL STAFF

YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT...?

HOW DO

KOIOHI

GEEZ...

WELL

SEE YA!

WHY WAS HE EVEN HERE ANYWAY?

IT'LL BE HARDER TO REFUSE

I'M STILL...

THINKING

BUT...

...IF YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT...

"NOT EVEN SOMEONE FROM A MARRIAGE INTERVIEW.

...ANYONE ELSE I MEET FROM NOW IS THE SAME.

"THAT'S RAGHT

IT CAN BE ANYONE.

IT'S NOT MY FIRST LOVE...

MARRYING YOUR FIRST LOVE...

WHAT'LL YOU DO?

IF IT'S NOT NAOKI...

IT MIGHT AS WELL BE ANYONE, RIGHT...?

...IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO.

DOC

GRAB

WAIT!

TO BE HUGE ANYMORE

DON'T WAIT

YOU REALLY OUGHT TO DIET DON'T YOU?

PENCIL

AH

I'M SORRY ABOUT RESCUE

...SORRY

...WANT MOM."

WHAT DOES HE

WHAT...?

FIRST OF ALL, MY PARENTS WOULDN'T HAVE LET ME

I ME /ED HAD FRIENDS I PLAYED WITH AT NIGHT

HUH...?

...I'VE DONE FIREWORKS WITH SOMEONE LIKE THIS.

IS THIS FIRST TIME

HM...

...BUY THESE TOO?

CAN YOU

BUT...

FIREWORKS

IN THAT CASE...

I'LL PAY FOR THIS AS AN APOLOGY

HUH?

I WANT TO

YOU DON'T HAVE TO...

DON'T BELIEVE THIS

I WANTED TO TRY THEM

JUST

AND...

I WANTED HIM TO SEE ANGRY

I DIDN'T HAVE...

...THAT KIND OF FAMILY

FOR TWO SHORT YEARS...

...WITH YOUR FAM-LY... F

WHAT ABOUT

PRETTY SHELTERED, HUH?

A LOVER. A FAMILY.

...CALL IT A FAMILY...

YOU COULDN'T EVEN.

THAT'S RIGHT.

AS FAR AS "FAMILY" GOES...

...YOU'RE IT.

AS LONG AS THIS FIREWORK KEEPS BURNING
HM...?
I CAN HUM SEEKING NO ?
DOC...?
-C
BUT I COULDN'T ACCEPT IT
"NO."
I KNEW THAT
"OUR SUMMER WILL BE OVER."
FIREWORK GOES OUT
IF THIS...
AH...
OK
DOC...
HM
OUR SUMMER ENDED

IF WE TRY TO DREAM...

...DREAM ONCE AGAIN?

...BE ABLE TO

WE WILL

I DON'T UNDERSTAND

"THAT FACE"...?

WHAT FACE...?

WHEN Y... MAKE THA... FACE!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND!

BUT...

DOC...

GULP!

IT'S

AMAZING.

REALLY.

HA TA H...

NAO...

KI.

IF WE CAN.

THEN I DON'T WANT TO EVER WAKE UP.

AH...

...MAKES ME HAPPY

EVEN IF THIS IS JUST ONE OF NADKI'S WHIMS...

AH!

FOR NOW...

THAT ALONE...

I CAN TOUCH HER.

NADKI IS WITHIN MY REACH

RIGHT NOW.

BECAUSE THIS...

THE PERSON I LOVE MOST TO MAKE LOVE TO ME.

ALL I WANT IS...

DING

I MUST

REALLY LOVE HIM...

MMM HI

I WANT TO KNOW..

DID HE GO TO THE HOSPITAL ALREADY

HE'S NOT HERE

WHAT'S HE'S FEELING

MAYBE NOW.

WE CAN REALLY TALK

I'M SO HAPPY...

NOW WE'RE..

..DONE

STEP

NOW WHAT?

..DAMNIT

RING

..IS THE LAST TIME.

RING

DR. TAKINO.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
IT'S BEEN A WHILE.
WAGER'S OR MARU-SAWA?
UM...
HUH?
YOUR WOUNDS ALL BETTER?
DON'T GO TEARING IT OPEN
THANKS TO YOU!
RESPIRA-TORY CENTER.
UH...
DOC.
ASH
(SCRATCH)
(SCRATCH)
INDEX

IT'S A SPECIAL DAY. AFTER ALL.
HUH...?
HE'S PROBABLY DRESSED UP AT THE HOTEL...
BY NOW
SEE?
OH...
TODAY'S DATE
YEAH

SOUNDS LIKE A GREAT WOMAN.

YEAH

I'M NOT SURE IF I'D ADVISE GOING THROUGH WITH IT

THOUGH

...MARRIAGE INTERVIEW

TODAY'S MIS...

MARRIAGE INTERVIEW

OH.

I DON'T KNOW?

...MARRIAGE INTERVIEW

THEY'RE BEING INTRODUCED BY THE DIRECTOR OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

HE'S

HEY!

SIGH

WELL, I DON'T LIE...

HMMM

20th

WHY?
DOC...!!

WHY...

WHY AM I...

...IN SUCH A PLACE?

A CALM HOTEL LOBBY

ELEGANT TEACUPS

PERFECT AIR CONDI-TIONING.

WELL...

MY DAUGHTER HAS ALSO STUDIED ABROAD

HE'S VERY TALENTED IN ARCHERY

DR. NARUSAWA REALLY IS AN EXCELLENT DOCTOR

AND UNTIL THIS TRIP HE WAS STUDYING ABROAD IN AMERICA...

...

...

OR NARUSAWA'S BEAUTY, HE'S SPEECHLESS-

SO TAKEN IN BY YOU.

I'M HERE MEETING HER

I'M A PERFECT MATCH!

OH I'M SO NERVOUS!

THE TWO OF US WILL PROBABLY END UP BUILDING A FAMILY.

IF I LET THIS CONTINUE WITHOUT REJECTING HER...

I CAN'T STAND THOSE GLANCES.

AS IF THEY'RE SIZING ME UP

I'M SURE...
IT WAS THIS HOTEL...!
...
...
...

"SIGH

"ALWAYS

HE'S ALWAYS

WHY HE APPEARED ANY DAD LIKE HE DID.

THAT'S WHY WE LIVED SEPARATELY

ALWAYS...

SINCE WE CAME BACK TO JAPAN.

HE'S BEEN SCARCE OF AIR.

SCARED THAT WE'D GET FOUND OUT

YOU STAND OUT TOO MUCH

RIGHT..

THAT'S..

THIS ISN'T LIKE AMERICA.

NAOMI... STOP IT. AEIRE BEING WATCHED

NAOKI

NAOKI

AM I NOTHING TO HIM? DOES HE NOT NEED ME AFTER ALL?

BUT THAT'S THE ONE THING I CAN'T GIVE HIM.

I'D DO ANYTHING FOR HIM.

HE'S ALWAYS WANTED TO BE "NORMAL"...

...I REALLY THOUGHT HE WANTED A LIE...?

BUT

LAST NIGHT...

...THE WORK OF A DOCTOR MUST KEEP YOU SO BUSY.

DON'T YOU NEED SOMEONE AT HOME TO HELP OUT?

...IS THAT WHY?

...ARRANGE THIS...

...INTERVIEW JUST BECAUSE I'M A DOCTOR?

DID YOU...

...HUH?

I WASN'T LIKE THIS TALKING TO ANICKI...

MORE IMPOR-TANTLY...

I'M TIRED.

I DON'T THINK TALKING WITH A WOMAN WOULD BE SO TIRING.

JUST PERFECT TO BE A DOCTOR'S WIFE

MY DAUGHTER IS A VERY RESPECTED YOUNG WOMAN.

I DIDN'T...

WE DON'T MIND AT ALL.

DOC-TOR...

WHAT'S RIGHT

NA-

HOW RUDE!

WATCH YOUR LANGUAGE!

NARU-SAWA!

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

MOM.

IS IT ANY BLADING AS A DOCTOR THAT GIVES ME ANY NORTH?

BECOME A DOCTOR BECAUSE I WANTED TO

BUT...

IT WAS WHAT MY PARENTS WANTED

AND BECAUSE I KNEW IT WAS STEERS INTO IT

WHAT THEY TOLD ME TO DO

SOMEHOW, THAT...

HUH?

I DIDN'T TELL HIM ABOUT TODAY.

AH..

IT'S NOTHING...

WHY IS NAOKI HERE?

NARUSAWA?

WHO TOLD HIM...

NO

...WHAT?

BETTER YET, WHY IS ME HERE...?

...!!

SLAP

"GOOD BYE!"

NARU-SAWA?

AH...

SWISH

NAOKI...?

I...

YOU'VE SEEN ACTING STRANGELY

WILL THE BAND HAPPEN AGAIN?

THIS IS THE GOOD TIME HE SAID GOOD BYE

WHAT'S WRONG??

NARU-SAWA!

...!

...

I'M SORRY

SIR...

I'VE BEEN LYING

I'VE

THE TRUTH IS I LOVE SOMEONE

SO ALWAYS

THE TRUTH'S ALWAYS

WE WERE TOGETHER IN AMERICA...

I'VE BETRAYED NAOKI

I'M SO TIRED OF MY INSECURITY

I DESPISE ME

NARU-SAWA?!

...OU...

IF

BUT STILL

EVEN A LITTLE

I WOULD LOVE ME AGAIN

...

THEN I

I WOULDN'T NEED ANYTHING ELSE.

BEING A DOCTOR, HAVING A FAMILY...

I DON'T WANT A SECOND HAPPINESS...

I WOULDN'T.

WHAT I WANT IS...

IT MEANS NOTHING WITHOUT YOU, WAOKI...!

DOC?

ARE YOU...

OKAY...?

JUST YOU.

I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU MYSELF...!

SO, ETC! BEING A STUPID DOCTOR!

...SU-PER-CUTE?

AH...

SCARY...

I SAID TOO MUCH

...

...

HA- HA-

THINGS MAY BECOME DIFFICULT FOR ME THERE

IT WAS THE DIRECTOR'S INTRODUC-TION, AFTER ALL

I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM LOOK SO SHOCKED.

...

...NAOKI

TO MOST PEOPLE, THIS MAKES UP EVERYTHING I AM

YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO WOULD SEE IT AS BEING IN THE WAY

BECAUSE OF CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES THEY COULDN'T LIVE THE LIFE THEY WANTED.

LONG AGO...

THERE WAS A COUPLE WHO WANTED THEIR CHILD TO BE A DOCTOR MORE THAN ANYTHING.

WOULD YOU... LISTEN TO AN OLD STORY?

YOU MEAN...

SO THEY WANTED TO PASS ON THEIR DREAMS THROUGH THEIR CHILD

HE'S TALKING ABOUT HIMSELF?

. YOUR WORK AS A "DOCTOR" ALWAYS INTERRUPTED OUR TIME TOGETHER.

...SOMETIMES.

I WISHED, DEEP DOWN, THAT YOU *WEREN'T* A DOCTOR.

IN AMERICA,

AND WHEN WE CAME BACK TO JAPAN...

THE TRUTH IS...

I KNEW YOUR WORK WAS IMPORTANT TO YOU

BUT...

"STUPID" DOCTOR.

HUH...?

ITAI

CRUCIATE

THEY WERE THE ONES THAT INITIATED

I NEVER... STARTED ANYTHING MYSELF

I DON'T REALLY KNOW HOW

I THOUGHT ABOUT...

REBELLING AGAINST MY PARENTS ONCE.

I NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT THOSE THINGS...

I NEVER LIKED ANYONE. NEVER HATED ANYONE

WHAT I DESIRED.

I COULDN'T MAKE FRIENDS. BECAUSE...

I WAS DOING AS MY PARENTS TOLD ME.

I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO MAKE FRIENDS.

BECAUSE OF THAT

HE COULDN'T INTERACT NORMALLY WITH OTHERS

HE DON'T KNOW HOW TO ENTER THEIR CIRCLE

THAT CHILD GREW UP...

..STUDYING INSTEAD OF PLAYING LIKE MOST CHILDREN

NO...!

AND SO...

LIKE A DOLL.

I CARRIED ON MY PARENT'S WISHES...

BUT ME...?

NAOMI

YOU CHOSE ME JUST NOW. DIDN'T YOU?

I WAS TESTING YOU.

THEY DIED AT THE HEIGHT OF HAPPINESS...

TO SEE IF YOU'D FOLLOW ME.

I KNEW IF YOU REALLY LOVED ME...!

...

ON THEIR WAY TO MEET ME, THEY DIED IN AN ACCIDENT..

I THINK..

THEY WERE BOTH HAPPY.

I WAS GOING TO TELL THEM I WAS DROPPING OUT OF SCHOOL.

...HOWEVER

SLAM!

FATHER...

MOTHER...!

REALLY WANT ME, DON'T YOU...?

ALL RIGHT NOW.

YOU'RE...

IT'S ALL R'SHT...

AH...

YOU...

AN EMPTY DOLL!

YOU'RE NOT...

SO PLEASE

...

WITH ME...

YOU'RE HERE.

I KNOW

Last...

THANK YOU, NAOKI...

BECAUSE OF YOU,

I...

...I'M ABLE TO CRY FOR MY PARENTS.

FOR THE FIRST TIME...

NAOKI...?

DR NARU-SAWA!

BUT..

I DID BASICALLY THROW MUD ON HIS FACE

AND IT WAS A BIG INSULT TO DIRECTOR SUZUKI.

YEAH

WAS THE DIRECTOR PISSED?

ARE YOU OKAY?

I'D SWEPT STEP

I'VE MISSED THIS SMELL..

TWO FRAGRANCES ARE MIXING...

CREATING ONE NEW SMELL...

THAT'S WHY I...

THAT'S WHY I'M TELLING YOU

I CAN'T GO BACK...

ENGLISH?

WHO'S HE TALKING TO IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT?

I WON'T...
REGRET IT.
CON'T LET...
YOUR EYES WANDER.
...
...
WHAT'S THAT MEAN?
SUDDENLY, DR MARLA SAW SEIKO...
A NOA CUTE
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?
...FOUND WHAT I WANTED.
BYE.
DECIDE I FINALLY...
I WON'T
HMM?
HE'S IN THE CAN! CUT! CUT!
HUH?
I'VE ONLY JUST REALIZED IT
BUT I LIKE A CHALLENGE.
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?
ARE SOMEONE ELSE'S OR MARSHMA

THAT GIRL...

...

...

BUT...

THAT'S TRUE.

YOU START PART-TIME. BUT IT SHOULD BE FUN. RIGHT?

IF YOU REALLY WANT TO BE A PROGRAMMER, THIS IS A GREAT CHANCE FOR YOU TO GET SOME WORK DONE.

...

WHY ARE YOU BEING SO STUBBORN?

TO COME WORK FOR THEM, GET IT?

YOU...

AN AMERICAN COMPANY IS PAYING

SHE WAS WITH NOCK! BEFORE!

IT FEELS LIKE I SHOULDN'T BE OUT.

GEEZ

WHAT IS SHE DOING HERE?

I WANT TO SEE HIS FACE

THERE HE GO

BUT I JUST...

I KNOW IT SEEMS SILLY...

MOM'S BACK?

NON-DEB IE

...TO PUT YOU IN SUCH A STATE

GEEZ

WHAT...?

SHE MUST BE SOME BEAUTY..

I DIDN'T KNOW THAT...

AND THE COMPANY'S IN A JAM

BUT, HASN'T IT BOTHERED YOU?

THAT'S...

LEAVING A PROJECT HALF FINISHED?

...

...!

...I'LL BE GONE FOR *AT LEAST* A YEAR OR TWO.

ARE YOU *THAT* AGAINST LEAVING YOUR LOVER?

..LAST TIME I WASN'T GIVEN MUCH TIME TO COME BACK TO JAPAN.

IT WAS HARD

IF I GO AGAIN...

NOW...

..ALL ABOUT IT!

♪ ANGST

WHAT...?

WHEN YOU CAME BACK FROM AMERICA YOU'D SEED HER SO MUCH YOU WERE USELESS.

DOC!

OPEN THE DOOR!

GOING TO GO

NO WAY!

I'M NOT...

WHY!

HUH?

WHAM

WHAM

WHAM

I KNOW IT'S THE BEST THING FOR HIM!

BUT I WAS

...GLAD TO HEAR HIM SAY THAT.

GOING TO GO

I'M NOT.

OH?

YOU'RE GOOD WITH COMPUT-ERS?

YEAH

WANT TO GO

YOU DEADLY

...WORK...

THE TRUTH IS...

TO COME BACK

HE MUST BE GREAT IF THEY ASKED HIM

BUT NEVER TO THIS EXTENT.

I ALWAYS KNEW HE WORKED WITH COMPUTERS

HASN'T BOTH ERED YOU?

THAT'S

I'D LIKE TO KEEP DOING THIS IN THE FUTURE.

THAT'S RIGHT...

I'VE BEEN WORKING ON MY STUDYING ABROAD AND JOINING A COMPANY NOW

YEAH

SO, PLAYING WITH COMPUTERS CAN'S NECESSARILY TO ME

BECAUSE OF MY ASTHMA I CAN'T GET OUT MUCH, YKNOW?

CONTRACT COMPANIES ARE REALLY BUSY THESE DAYS

I'M A PROGRAMMER

I...

WHAT DO I WANT TO DO...?

ABOUT THESE CRE-COCK...

NAOKI

WITH THE WAY DOC AS WELL PROBABLY TELL US TO BREAK UP FOR AN HOUR OR SO!

BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT WORRIES ME MOST.

BUT...

CONCERNED ABOUT THE PROJECT...

I AM.

AND

HE SHOULDN'T HAVE THAT HEART.

DOC

BUT

UNTIL NOW MY HEART HASN'T BEEN COMPLETELY TOUCHED.

I WAS HAPPY JUST THAT WE COULD BE TOGETHER?

HIS CLOSE-NESS

HIS BODY

HIS HEART

I DON'T WANT ALL OF THOSE THINGS EVEN ONE OF THOSE SCARED ME.

AND NOW...

HIM

...MORE AND MORE.

I WANT HIM!...

DOC...

HE DOES

FEEL THIS WAY TOO...?

...!

NO OTHER DOING

I CAN TELL HOW YOU JUST BY LOOKING AT YOU...

YOU DON'T HAVE TO FORCE YOURSELF

...DOC

I DON'T CARE ABOUT...

THAT JOB-

I WENT TO AMERICA TO FOLLOW YOU!

...I WANT TO GO.

I DON'T...

...NAOKI...

...SPLITTING UP AGAIN...?

DOES THIS MEAN...

THAT WE'RE...

...THE KEYS I GAVE INSTEAD OF CONSOLATION MONEY.

THESE ARE...

...THE KEYS TO YOUR APARTMENT THAT I REFUSED TO TAKE.

THOSE KEYS NOW...?

TAKE

CAN I...

WHY...?!

COO

L...!

AH...

...NAOKI.

YOU'RE MORE IMPORTANT TO ME THAN ANYTHING...!

THOSE ARE THE ONLY WORDS I CAN'T...

BUT I DON'T WANT TO BE AWAY FROM YOU...!

IF IT WAS A JAPANESE COMPANY, I WOULD GO

CAN I...

...WAIT FOR YOU.

RIGHT HERE...?

WE CAN LIVE TOGETHER WHEN YOU GET BACK

IF WE CALL AND WRITE EACH OTHER A YEAR OR TWO WILL PASS LIKE NOTHING

I'LL BE WAITING

I'LL WAIT IN THAT APARTMENT.

G...

DOC...?

GO TO...

...AMERI-CA

SO UNEASY.

UNTIL NOW, I DIDN'T...

TRUST YOU, OR MYSELF

REALIZE IT NOW.

THAT'S WHY I WAS UNEASY.

EVEN THOUGH YOU WERE ALWAYS FOLLOWING ME.

I HAD NO CONFIDENCE.

I WAS ALWAYS AFRAID OF LOSING EVERYTHING.

HEY.

BUT NOW

NAOKI?

BRUSH

NA--!

HOW CAN I NOT GO.

WHEN YOU SAY THAT...?

THAT WAS A PROPOSAL, WASN'T IT?

YOU'RE MORE IMPORTANT TO ME THAN MY JOB

HUH?

NEVER-MIND...

THAT'S WHAT MAKES IT SO HARD.

THOUGH I AM PRETTY GLAD...

BUT I DON'T WANT YOU TO HOLD BACK BECAUSE OF ME.

THAT'S NOT FAIR.

NAOKI..

DOC!

...

...

...

WORRY
THAT?
OTHER
MEN
MIGHT BE
AFTER
YOU
IT'S ONLY
BEEN TWO
MONTHS
SINCE I
LEFT
JAPAN.
BUT IT
FEELS
LIKE
HUNDREDS
OF YEARS
IT'S
ALREADY
SNOWING
HERE.
NOT
THAT
AGAIN.
I'M NOT AS
ATTRACTIVE
AS YOU
THINK.
BUT I
STILL GET
JAGGY
WHEN I
THINK
ABOUT
THAT
MICHAEL
I KNOW
IT WAS
NOTHING
HM?
I'VE GOT
MAIL FROM
M CHAEL
TOO
ALL I
HAVE
TIME
FOR IS
THIS
EMAIL.
I'M
SO
BUSY
BUT I
WANT
TO SEE
YOU
AAOKY...

IT IS ALMOST CHRISTMAS
GETTING A PRESENT FOR YOUR CIRCLE JERK?
HA HA!
I HAVE TO GO SHOPPING
YEAH
ARE YOU LEAVING
NO WAY!
I'LL BE TOTALLY OF MIE TO SELFISH
I'LL SEE YOU SOON.
I'M SURE...

SURROUNDED BY THE FRAGRANCE OF
=JAZZ=

THAT'S WHY WE HAVE YOU TWO DOCTORS WITH US!!

SHA GOTYO (MAKINO)

(MIZUSHIMA) CHO HAKKAI

NOW... NOW...

NAOKI.

GLUNG

I'M A FIGHTER!

FLICK

TWO LICENSED DOCTORS.

I'M HERE BECAUSE I HAD A MIGRAINE. DON'T BE MAD ONLY NON-DOCTORS

FU

SHA GOTYO (MAKINO)

WE CAN'T GO ON UNTIL WE HEAL THE VILLAGERS. ALL RIGHT!

YOU TWO

...CAM-NIT

THERE WAS A PARTY THAT TRAVELED TO THE WEST IN PURSUIT OF BUDDHIST SCRIPTURE.

ONCE UPON A TIME.

BUDDHA TEACHES US TO HELP THOSE IN NEED.

FRIEST SANZO (MARUSAWA)

ISN'T THAT SO?

I DON'T REALLY CARE ABOUT THIS JOURNEY.

I'M JUST YOUR-RIED

BECAUSE

HE O/S FIND A/E WHEN I WAS SUFFERING FROM ASTHMA. AFRAID ALL

SMILE

RIGHT?

YES!

DOC!

THERE ARE STRANGE RUMORS.

IF SOMEONE TOOK A SMALL BITE OF HIM, THEY'D LIVE 1000 YEARS FOR A 10,000 FOR A LARGE BITE.

YOU COULD INCREASE YOUR LIFESPAN UNTIL YOU'RE ALMOST IMMORTAL!

AND I'M SO WORRIED EVERYONE WILL BE AFTER HIM!

NAOKI

WHAT'S WRONG?

ALSO,

NAOKI'S

BEING HUNG ON AMAZON

AND HE HAS NO IDEA OK HOW I SUFFER FOR HIM...!

4 PRIME TARGET!

BE REALLY

THE TRUTH IS:

ONE COULD BITE

ARE YOU ILL?

...NOW...

EVER!

STOP!

FOR 10,000 YEARS

ONE LARGE BITE

IT MUST TASTE LIKE...

...SWEET NECTAR!

NAOKI?!

WHAT ARE YOU--?

REALLY WANT...

I ALSO...

NA--

NNNN

...HAAH

...DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?

"OKAY." MY HAVE SOME FUN WITH MY "EXTENDING STAFF."

AND THEN

JUST ONE

WAIT

GRAB

SHOVE

...TO EAT YOU!!

HUH?!

THANK YOU ALL FOR STICKING WITH ME THIS LONG. JAZZ ENDS WITH VOLUME 4. THIS LAST VOLUME DEVELOPED A LITTLE DIFFERENTLY FROM THE ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT. WHAT REALLY HAPPENED WAS THAT THE DOCTOR FOOLED AROUND WITH A WOMAN. BUT I WANTED TO AVOID THAT...SO I CHANGED IT FROM THE ORIGINAL A LITTLE (SO I ENDED UP MAKING SOME STUFF UP--IT'S VERY NERVE-WRACKING TO TAMPER WITH SOMEONE ELSE'S WORK). ACCORDING TO MS. MAEDA, NARUSAWA'S BLOOD TYPE IS A, WHILE NAOKI'S IS O. AS AN O TYPE MYSELF I HAD A HARD TIME UNDERSTANDING NARUSAWA'S ACTIONS. THOUGH THERE WAS THE TRAUMA OF HIS CHILDHOOD THAT AFFECTED HIS PERSONALITY, I CAN'T SAY HE WAS EASY TO WRITE. AND FOR THAT I APOLOGIZE TO MS. MAEDA.

"SIGH"

IN THE END, I LET HIM BE MORE INDEPENDENT. A REAL RELATIONSHIP CAN BE SWEET, BUT DOESN'T HAPPINESS ALSO COME FROM GROWING UP AS A PERSON?

TAMOTSU TAKAMURE

THE EXTRA CHAPTER IS "JOURNEY TO THE WEST" BECAUSE I LIKE IT.
EVEN THOUGH IT'S A TOTALLY DIFFERENT GENRE FROM JAZZ.
THOUGH THIS LAST MANGA WAS A DRAMA I'D LIKE TO WRITE SOMETHING LIKE "JOURNEY TO THE WEST" TOO. MAYBE I SHOULD READ "ROMANCE OF THE THREE KINGDOMS"...?
THAT'S WHAT SON GOKU IS LIKE TO ME

Jazz・西遊記 End

JAZZ・JOURNEY TO THE WEST CHAPTER

Wagamama High★

By Kaori Monchi

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Afterword

HELLO. THIS IS MAEDA (THE ORIGINAL AUTHOR [SORT OF]). I SAY "SORT OF" BECAUSE WHEN IT CAME TIME TO MAKE THE STORY INTO A MANGA, I HAD ALREADY FORGOTTEN ALL THINGS I ESTABLISHED FOR IT, SO THE ONLY ANSWER I COULD GIVE WAS, "I'LL TRUST YOU TO MAKE IT GOOD."

I'M SORRY FOR BEING SUCH A FORGETFUL AUTHOR. THANKS TO THAT I WAS ABLE TO PICK UP THE FIRST VOLUME AND READ IT WITH A FRESH FEELING, THOUGH IT DID MAKE ME FEEL LIKE SOMETHING OF A FAILURE AS AN AUTHOR.

ESPECIALLY WITH THIS LAST VOLUME, WHICH IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM THE ORIGINAL. IN ANY CASE, GOOD WORK TO EVERYONE WHO WORKED ON THE SERIALIZATION THESE PAST TWO YEARS.

SAKAE MAEDA.